

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

June 15, 2023

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Marty Weilgos
Owana Miller
Megan Flores
Monica Rubio
Jackie Perez (Parent Board Member)
Mira Projovic (Teacher Board Member)

School Representatives

Deb Snedden (Superintendent / School Leader)
Debbie Czmieł (Business Manager)
Jeff Wood (School Principal / Assistant Superintendent)
Walter Woghren (Dean of Students / Athletic Director)

Not in Attendance:

Dave Ryan
Dr. Bob Rivers
Janet Venecz
Nicole Bazan (Parent Board Member)
Kevin Smith (Attorney)

Board meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m by Board President Kris Sakelaris.

Motions Approved by School Board

- *Motion to approve May 2023 Meeting Minutes* — Monica Rubio motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor motion approved 7-0.
- *Motion to approve April 2023 Payments* — Marty Weilgos motioned; seconded by Monica Rubio. All in favor motion approved 7-0.
- *Motion to approve contracts for the 2023-24 school year for the following personnel: Deborah Kelley (8th grade Math), Alyssa Medina (7th grade ELA), Matthew Sokol (6th grade Global Studies), Jennifer Burosh-Walkowiak (11th grade ELA), Josh Collier (9th grade Biology), Viane Landa (Personal Finance/Business Office Assistant) & Erin Rutherford (Social/Emotional Guidance Counselor)* — Monica Rubio motioned; seconded by Jackie Perez. All in favor motion approved 7-0.
- *Motion to approve MOU CCSJ* — Marty Weilgos motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor motion approved 7-0.
- *Motion to accept the DOE Digital Learning Grant* — Monica Rubio motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor motion approved 7-0.
- *Motion to adjourn* — Monica Rubio motioned; seconded by Marty Weilgos. All in favor approved 7-0.

New Correspondence

- None

School Leader Report

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee-** Committee did not report.
- **Personnel Committee-** Committee did not report.
- **Community Relations Committee-** Committee did not report.
- **Do Now Committee-** Deb Snedden has consistently been meeting with various staff to address issues
- **Strategic Planning Committee-** Deb Snedden said the committee is planning to work with consultant Nathan Williamson to create the plan

Discussion Notes

- Jeff Wood gave the HR report including all new hires for the upcoming school year:
 - Deborah Kelley, 8th grade Math
 - Alyssa Medina, 7th grade ELA
 - Matthew Sokol, 6th grade Global Studies
 - Jennifer Burosh-Walkowiak, 11th grade ELA
 - Josh Collier, 9th grade Biology
 - Viane Landa, Personal Finance & Business Office Assistant
 - Erin Rutherford, Social-Emotional Guidance Counselor
- Walter Woghiren, as the new Athletic Director, gave an update on Athletics, including:
 - Working with Deb Czmil to create a system where all financials go thru the Business Office
 - Settling all current & past due invoices
 - Restructuring policies for all athletes & coaches
- Deb Czmil went over financial matters & reports, including:
 - Consolidating all athletic & club accounts to go thru the Business Office
 - The creation of a Fundraising Calendar to keep track of all club fundraisers & financials
 - To handle the expanded role of the Business Office, Evie Rimkus is promoted to full-time Admin/Business Office Assistant & Viane Lands will be joining a part-time Business Office Assistant
- Kris Sakelar is would like to plan a Board retreat for the fall
- Kris Sakelar is invited all Board members to join her for her annual Back-to-School Teacher Talk on Aug. 4th
- Marty Weilgos praised the high school graduation ceremony & would like to see more attendance from other Board members. Mira Projovic said being a senior sponsor & putting on the graduation ceremony is a daunting task & many teachers are hesitant to take on the responsibility. Kris Sakelar is suggested 1 board member pair up with sponsors from each high school class & offer their help as they move to graduation.
- Marty Weilgos said he is often approached by local business owners seeking employees & would HAST students be interested. Deb Snedden said she will look into how best to match up these businesses with interested students.

Board Financial Inquiries

New Business

Public Comment

- Griselda Landa, HAST parent, is wondering who will take over class sponsorship for the Class of 2026 with the departure of Sydney Smith. She also welcomed Mr. W in his new role as Athletic Director & is happy to see on-going problems in athletics be addressed.
- April Avila, HAST parent, would like to see communication be improved between teachers, parents & administration. She would also like to see cameras installed in all the classrooms.
- Leyda Landa, HAST parent, would like to see more social-emotional support be given to students & staff.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted